

My husband, George, died October 26, 1973 at the age of sixty-eight.

## JUVENTA MONTGOMERY HAMBLIN



Juventa M. Hamblin



Juventa M. Hamblin

Juventa Montgomery Hamblin was born August 1, 1895, at 101 East Sixth South, Heber, Utah. She was the fourth child and second girl of the marriage of Livingston and Amelia Ann Clegg Montgomery. At this time she lived in the Heber East Ward, Wasatch Stake. Abram Hatch, Stake President, named her Juventa on Thursday, October 3, 1895. Thursday was the official "Fast Day" at that time. It was the day for fasting, testimony bearing, blessing of children, baptisms and confirmations. The name Juventa was chosen because it was the name of the ship on which her maternal grandfather emigrated to America.

Juventa had three brothers: Livingston Clegg Montgomery, lawyer; Francis Clayton Montgomery, dentist; Walter Montgomery, stockman, farmer. Her sister, Mary Ann, died when only two months old from whooping cough.

Juventa's childhood home was a happy and secure place. Her mother was a splendid cook and her father read to the children or told them stories in the evenings. These stories were culturally, religiously and civically uplifting. The family had a highly satisfactory social life of family dinners, parties, home dramatics, dances, church affairs, and overnight stays with family members.

Juventa's father left for a mission in 1898, leaving his wife to provide for their three children. Juventa's mother sewed for people and tended children to earn their living. In 1890 Juventa's mother contracted typhoid after nursing her mother through the disease. The Church decided the family needed their husband and father at home and he was released after nearly two years in the mission field.

When she was eight years old Juventa was baptized at Hatch's mill pond by her uncle, George Clegg. Immediately following this service, the confirmation was performed on the bank of the pond by Charles J. Wahlquist.

The first Sunday School Juventa attended was in the back room of the Stake House on Main Street and Edward Clyde was the

teacher.

Juventa attended elementary school in the oil with Fifth Grade at the North. She began her home in the upstairs rooms over the old Heber City Mer pot rock high school was completed in 1912 she school education there. She was class president for in many school plays and served on various committees very active in debating.

After graduating in 1915 she taught school in years, the first year at \$47.50 a month, the second at \$50.00. Next she taught Second and Third Grades at Wellington, Carbon County where she met Charles Hamblin. During the raging influenza epidemic of 1917-18 the schools were closed and she returned to Heber. When traveling was again permitted, Charles came to Heber and they were married by Bishop Frederick Crook.

The next years were difficult ones. She had all she could do to take care of her home and five children. Her father had diabetes and her mother had to have help with him. Juventa also had to work to support her family. Charles held various short term jobs and Juventa worked in hot dog stands, did sewing and any other work she could find. From 1932-36 she went to Soldier Summit, part of the Wasatch School District, to teach school. She loved it there, made fast friends and had a steady income. Juventa worked in each school in Wasatch county until she was 74 years old, teaching as a substitute after she retired as a regular teacher. Three times she was principal of a school. She earned her certification credits the hard way, through summer school sessions, extension and correspondence courses, availing herself of every opportunity to build up university credits.

Five children were born to Juventa and Charles. Mont married Ruth Beven. Burke married Sara Jane Smith. Dorice married Stanley M. Darcy. They were divorced and she later married Eugene Wisch. Joyce died in 1953 at the age of 27 after an illness of thirteen years. Ruth married Clyde Austin. In 1953 Juventa was granted a divorce from Charles Hamblin after a difficult married life.

Juventa worked publicly from the age of 18. She served on the Primary, Sunday School and Mutual Improvement Stake Boards. In the Heber Third Ward she was a Primary Teacher and Inservice Leader. In Relief Society she was a Theology Leader and Literary



Juventa M. Hamblin

Teacher. She also taught MIA classes of young girls and was a teacher in Sunday School.

At one time she wrote an advertising column for Jack Turner of Turner Building Supply. It was a profile of Wasatch County pioneers. These columns were later compiled into a booklet and given to patrons of the business.

She was County Chairman of the Women's Division of the Wasatch County Fair.

After her retirement from teaching, Venta devoted herself to cooking, needle point, fancy sewing and making beautiful quilts. She won sweepstake and many blue ribbons for her entries in the Wasatch County Fair for her beautiful handwork.

In her later years Venta was plagued with various recurrent health problems. After each recovery she busied herself with studying, writing, visiting her children and taking care of herself with welcome help from a devoted neighbor, Mildred Davis. Jean and Walter Montgomery were especially close to her and Juventa considered their children as her own and they reciprocated in their affection and concern for her.

Venta died in the Heber Hospital on April 5, 1984 at the age of 88 from the effects of a stroke. Her two sons, Mont and Burke preceeded her in death as did her daughter, Joyce.